

Book Club Kits!

DARK MATTER



BURLINGTON
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Inside the kit:

(8) book copies

(1) book club guide

About the Book:

"Are you happy with your life?"

Those are the last words Jason Dessen hears before the masked abductor knocks him unconscious.

Before he awakens to find himself strapped to a gurney, surrounded by strangers in hazmat suits.

Before a man Jason's never met smiles down at him and says, "Welcome back, my friend."

In this world he's woken up to, Jason's life is not the one he knows. His wife is not his wife. His son was never born. And Jason is not an ordinary college physics professor, but a celebrated genius who has achieved something remarkable. Something impossible.

Is it this world or the other that's the dream? And even if the home he remembers is real, how can Jason possibly make it back to the family he loves? The answers lie in a journey more wondrous and horrifying than anything he could've imagined—one that will force him to confront the darkest parts of himself even as he battles a terrifying, seemingly unbeatable foe.

From the author of the bestselling Wayward Pines trilogy, *Dark Matter* is a brilliantly plotted tale that is at once sweeping and intimate, mind-bendingly strange and profoundly human—a relentlessly surprising science-fiction thriller about choices, paths not taken, and how far we'll go to claim the lives we dream of. (From Goodreads)

Suggested Reads:

Clines, Peter
The Fold

Kenyon, Kay
Bright of the Sky

Mastai, Elan
All Our Wrong Todays



About the Author:

Blake Crouch is a bestselling novelist and screenwriter. He is the author of the novel, *Dark Matter*, for which he is writing the screenplay for Sony Pictures. His international-bestselling *Wayward Pines* trilogy was adapted into a television series for FOX, executive produced by M. Night Shyamalan, that was Summer 2015's #1 show. With Chad Hodge, Crouch also created *Good Behavior*, the TNT television show starring Michelle Dockery based on his Letty Dobesh novellas. He has written more than a dozen novels that have been translated into over thirty languages and his short fiction has appeared in numerous publications including *Ellery Queen* and *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*.

Crouch lives in Colorado.

<http://blakecrouch.com/blake.php>

1. For you, what was the biggest surprise as you followed Jason through the many twists laid out in *Dark Matter*?
2. What makes Jason 1 a standout amongst the others? Is our allegiance to him a matter of perspective? Or is there something fundamental to him that is more deserving of Daniela and Charlie than the others?
3. When the novel switches to Daniela's point of view for the first time, were you surprised by the scene that takes place? Confused? What did you think was happening?
4. At its heart, *Dark Matter* is a love story. Yet we see Daniela in many different worlds and in situations where she is not with Jason and happy. Do you think they are supposed to be together? Do you believe that they would have been just as happy pursuing their career-driven dreams?
5. Many of the decisions in *Dark Matter* center around the notion of career and family. If you had to choose, would you rather live Jason 1 or Jason 2's life? Why?
6. Jason 2 (and some of the other Jasons we meet later in the book) acts in morally questionable ways throughout the novel. Do you think that his life path has caused him to be less kind-hearted? Or is he merely self-interested and willing to do whatever it takes?
7. Without Amanda, Jason 1 might not have survived. What do you think of her decision to leave him? How did you feel about their relationship?
8. What kind of world do you imagine Jason, Daniela, and Charlie entered at the end of the book?
9. What did you think of the science and technology in the book? If this kind of advancement in science was possible, would you want it to exist?
10. *Dark Matter* has a somewhat unusual combination of qualities—it's part thriller, part science-fiction novel, part love story. Can you think of other books or movies that combine these genres in similar ways?
11. What writing tricks and techniques does the author use to keep readers turning pages and make the book read quickly? Did you find them effective?
12. What was your favorite element of the novel? Your least favorite?
13. Is there a path not taken that you wish you could experience? If so, what is it? Do you feel you ultimately made the right decision?